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17AM-MIDEAST-WALDHEIM

NEW YORK, JAN 29, REUTER - THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) HAS BEEN ASKED TO LOOK INTO U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM'S BACKGROUND IN AUSTRIA DURING THE RISE OF NAZISM, A NEW YORK CITY OFFICIAL SAID TODAY.

SAHUEL INTRATOR, AN AIDE TO NEW YORK CITY COUNCILWOMAN SUSAN ALTER, SAID DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ OF NEW YORK HAD CALLED FOR A CIA REPORT FOLLOWING EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT MR WALDHEIM'S POSTURE TOWARDS ISRAEL.

MR SOLARZ AND MRS ALTER WOULD MEET WITH NEW YORK JEWISH LEADERS SUNDAY TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION, MR INTRATOR SAID, INCLUDING WHAT HE TERMED "THE DANGER OF THE HATE PROPAGANDA EMANATING FROM THE UNITED NATIONS."

SENATOR DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, FORMER CHIEF U.S. DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND NEW YORK MAYOR EDWARD KOCH ARE AMONG THE SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL WHO HAVE STRONGLY CRITICIZED THE U.N. FOR ITS FIRMLY PRO-ARAB STAND IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT.

A STATEMENT ISSUED ON BEHALF OF MRS ALTER TODAY SPOKE OF "DISMAY AND OUTRAGE" OVER WHAT IT TERMED MR WALDHEIM'S "ANTI-ISRAEL ACTIONS," INCLUDING SUPPORT FOR A SEPARATE STATE RUN BY THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.

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17AM-MIDEAST-WALDHEIM 2 NEW YORK

MR WALDHEIM DISCUSSED THE SITUATION WITH YASSER ARAFAT, THE PLO LEADER, DURING THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE SUMMIT IN SAUDI ARABIA LAST MONDAY.

MR INTRATOR SAID THE PURPOSE OF SUNDAY'S MEETING WITH JEWISH LEADERS WAS TO REVIEW THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S RECORD AND PROPOSE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT EXAMINE THIS VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO SUPPORT HIM FOR AN UNPRECEDENTED THIRD TERM.

MR WALDHEIM'S CURRENT FIVE-YEAR TERM EXPIRES AT THE END OF

THIS YEAR AND HE IS WIDELY BELIEVED TO BE EAGER TO HAVE THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY GRANT HIM AN EXTENSION.

MR INTRATOR SAID SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL IN THE UNITED STATES GENERALLY DID NOT 'LOOK FAVORABLY' ON MR WALDHEIM, BUT SOME FEARED HIS SUCCESSOR 'COULD BE WORSE.'

SALIM AHMED SALIM, FOREIGN MINISTER OF TANZANIA, AND CARLOS ORTIZ DE ROZAS, ARGENTINA'S AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN, HAVE BEEN MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE CANDIDATES IN THE EVENT OF A DEADLOCK OVER MR WALDHEIM'S RE-ELECTION.

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